

News for Immediate Release May 24, 2004

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY SCHEDULE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISE

SACRAMENTO - The Department of Water Resources (DWR), in cooperation with the Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA), will conduct a one-day emergency management "functional exercise" on May 26, 2004, dealing with a simulated major flood event involving Oroville Dam and New Bullards Bar Dam.

During "Operation Snorkel," emergency operations centers will be activated by DWR, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Butte County, Yuba County and Sutter County. DWR's Operations Control Office and Flood Operations Center will support the exercise along with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and the National Weather Service.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission requires that DWR and YCWA conduct an emergency exercise every five years as a condition of their federal operations licenses.

This year, DWR and YCWA have joined together to avoid duplication of effort and to provide a more effective and realistic exercise environment.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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